

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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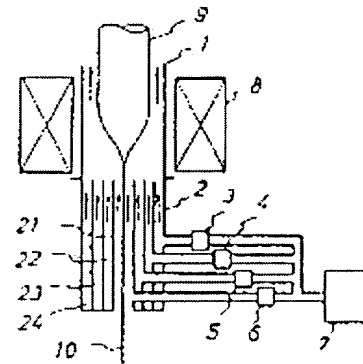
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(54) WIRE DRAWING APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL FIBER

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To make it possible to produce an optical fiber having excellent transmission characteristics and environmental resistance as well as improved strength, by providing plural gas charging inlets at the lower end part of a furnace core tube to charge an inert gas at a given flow rate into the furnace core tube.

CONSTITUTION: An inert gas is fed from a gas feeding device 7 through respective gas charging inlets 21W24 into a furnace core tube 1. The respective flow controllers 3W6 are controlled to set the gas flow rate at a higher value toward the charging inlets on the outer side in the gas charging inlets 21W24 and a lower value toward the charging inlets on the inside. Thereby a multilayered concentric inert gas stream having a flow rate increasing toward the outside is formed in the furnace core tube 1. The interior of the furnace core tube is heated by a heater 8. A preform 9 is simultaneously introduced from the upper part to draw a wire and pull down an optical fiber 10. Dust produced by reaction is blown up by the inert gas stream and discharged from the top of the furnace core tube 1. Especially, dust sticking to the inner wall of the furnace core tube 1 is discharged.



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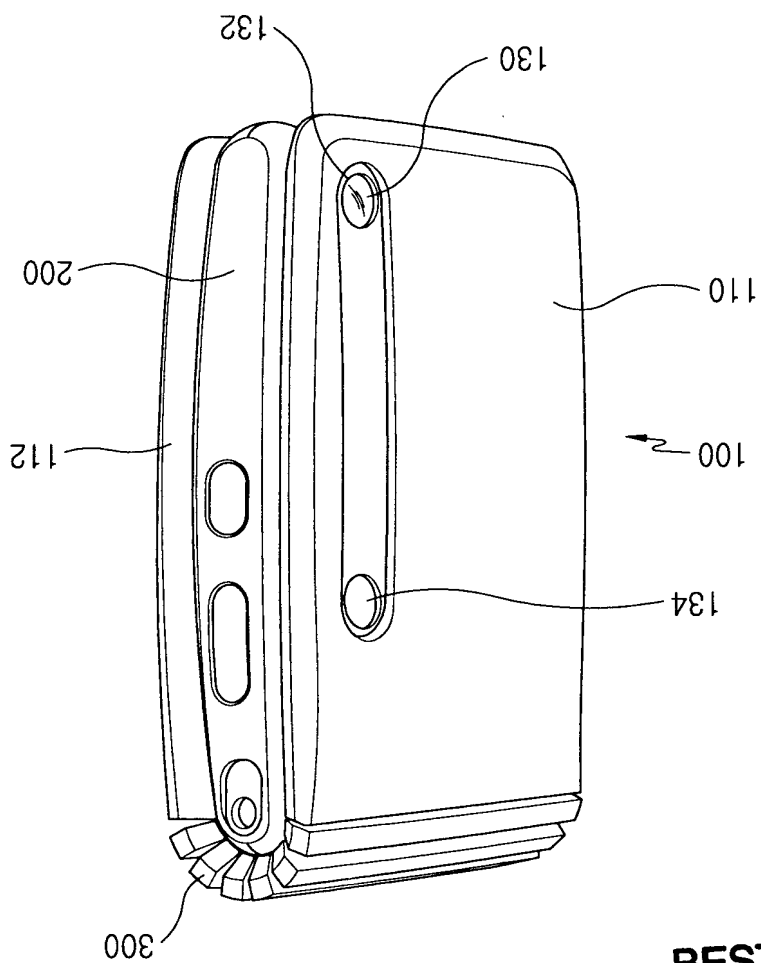
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FIG. 2



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